

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION



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## STATE OF MONTANA

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### DECISION MEMO CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Schoolhouse Lateral Pipeline Conservation Project  
September 2022  
Clinton Irrigation District  
Township 12N, Range 17E, Sections 22 & 27; 46°46'16"N and 113°42'50"W,  
Missoula County

#### PURPOSE AND NEED

The Clinton Irrigation District (CID) is proposing to rehabilitate the Schoolhouse Lateral irrigation canal. The Schoolhouse Lateral provides water for approximately 236 acres of agricultural land. The irrigated crops within the CID include alfalfa, grass for hay and pasture, and 2 residential irrigation areas for lawn and garden use.

Water losses have steadily increased within the existing laterals and canals of the CID irrigation system. The primary factors contributing to these water losses include seepage caused by well-drained soils located within the Lateral system. In addition, evapotranspiration caused by vegetative growth within the canal creates further water loss issues. These losses have caused some farmland in the CID to be unirrigated as sufficient water is not available to promote crop development. In those unirrigated farmlands crop yields are near zero creating an economic hardship for the community and local economy. As a result, improved water conservation and management within its current canals and laterals has been the focus for the CID in recent years.

The Schoolhouse Lateral is a critical portion of the CID system. The Lateral can support 236 acres of cropland, but in its current condition it is not performing optimally and can only support 156 acres, see Figure 2. Seepage in the lateral creates excessive demands on downstream pumps to provide enough water for users of the lateral. In addition to decreasing water losses, the upgrade to a closed pipe system will also increase safety. This stretch of canal is in the most densely populated area of Clinton and is in areas where young children play. In many cases, the lateral is within 5 feet of the back door of residential homes. Replacing the open lateral with a buried pipeline will eliminate seepage and evapotranspiration through the reach; improve irrigation delivery efficiency and effectiveness; eliminate safety hazards; and conserve water diverted from the Clark Fork River.

The Schoolhouse Lateral is located within the community of Clinton, specifically within Sections 22 and 27 of Township 12 North, Range 17 West, Missoula County (See Map). The latitude and longitude of the point of diversion of the Schoolhouse Lateral are approximately 46°46'16"N and 113°42'50"W, respectively. This project is situated within the Clark Fork River Basin (Hydrologic Unit (HU) 17010201). The Schoolhouse Lateral branches off the Main Canal and conveys water through an open canal delivery system beginning in the residential area of Clinton and continues for approximately 1.6 miles before returning to the Main Canal through a 12-inch CMP culvert after crossing East Mullan Road.

The project proposes to begin construction in September 2022.

**Explanation of the decision(s) that must be made regarding the proposed action (i.e. approve grant or loan and provide funding):**

DNRC will approve the grant to provide funding for the Schoolhouse Lateral Pipeline Conservation Project.

DNRC is not required to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for actions that qualify for a CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (ARM 36.17.614) or justified by a PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW; or are ACTIONS OF A SPECIAL NATURE (ARM 36.2.523(5)); or are EMERGENCIES (ARM 36.2.539). These actions are subject to review for EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES that would require an EA or an EIS.

**ACTIONS OF SPECIAL NATURE (ARM 36.2.523)**

- ☐ Administrative actions: routine, clerical or similar functions of a department, including but not limited to administrative procurement, contracts for consulting services, and personnel actions.
- ☐ Minor repairs, operations, or maintenance of existing equipment or facilities.
- ☐ Investigation and enforcement: data collection, inspection of facilities or enforcement of environmental standards.
- ☐ Ministerial actions: actions in which the agency exercises no discretion, but rather acts upon a given state of facts in a prescribed manner.
- ☐ Actions that are primarily social or economic in nature and that do not otherwise affect the human environment.

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION/PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW**

- ☒ Categorical Exclusion (CE) refers to a type of action which does not individually, collectively, or cumulatively require an EA or EIS, as determined by rulemaking or programmatic review adopted by the agency, unless extraordinary circumstances, as defined by rulemaking or programmatic review, occur. This project qualifies under ARM 36.17.614 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS.
- ☐ Programmatic review means an analysis (EIS or EA) of the impacts on the quality of the human environment of related actions, programs, or policies. DNRC – CARDD does not have any programmatic reviews completed at the time of this template.

The project listed above meets the definition of Actions of a Special Nature, Categorical Exclusion or Programmatic Review including specified conditions and Extraordinary Circumstances. Included below is a supplemental checklist verifying the use of the Categorical Exclusion.

<b>Prepared By:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Demi Blythe	<b>Date:</b> 2/3/2022
	<b>Title:</b>	MEPA/NEPA Coordinator	
	<b>Email:</b>	Demitra.Blythe@mt.gov	

<b>Approved By:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Mark Bostrom	
	<b>Title:</b>	Division Administrator	
<b>Signature:</b>	<div><div>DocuSigned by:</div><div>Mark W Bostrom</div><div>BF7A1C50B2AF4DE...</div></div>		<b>Date:</b> 2/7/2022   4:54:30 PM MST

## **DNRC CARDD DOCUMENTATION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION CHECKLIST**

**Project Name:** Schoolhouse Lateral Pipeline Conservation Project

**Brief Description:** Pipeline conversion

**Agreement Number:** RRG-22-1799A

**Date:** 2/3/2022

**Preparer:** Demi Blythe – MEPA/NEPA Coordinator

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation action under 36.17.614, is excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) if the application for department review is for any of the following projects:

**(a) Projects relating to existing infrastructure systems such as sewer and septic systems, drinking water supply systems, and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems, dams, culverts, headgates, canal lining, siphons, pipelines, pump sites, lift stations, irrigation infrastructure, that involve:**  
*[Answer yes or no. If all answers “no”, an EA or EIS must be completed. If any answer is yes, skip to (b).]*

1. No - Minor upgrading; or
2. No - Minor expansion of system capacity; or
3. Yes - Rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and system components; or
4. No - Construction of new minor ancillary facilities adjacent to or on the same property as existing facilities; or
5. No - Projects in unsewered communities involving the replacement of existing on-site systems, provided that the new on-site systems do not result in substantial increases in the volume of discharges or in loadings of pollutants from existing sources, and do not relocate existing discharges; or
6. No - Use of sampling and monitoring wells to test for the presence of contaminants such as, but not limited to, metals and petroleum; or
7. No - Activities that do not involve or lead directly to construction, such as planning studies, scientific research and analysis, surveys, or engineering.

**(b) A categorical exclusion may NOT be granted for a department action if:**

*[Answer yes or no. If all answers "no", skip to (c). If any answer is yes, an EA or EIS must be completed.]*

1. No - The action would authorize facilities that will provide a new discharge or relocate an existing discharge to ground or surface waters;
2. No - The action would result in an increase above permit levels established for the facility under the Montana pollutant discharge elimination system or Montana ground water pollution control system for either volume of discharge or loading rate of pollutants to receiving waters;
3. No - The action would authorize facilities that will provide capacity to serve a population at least 30% greater than the existing population;
4. No - The action is not supported by the state, or other regional growth plan or strategy;
5. No - The action directly or indirectly involves or relates to upgrading or extending infrastructure systems primarily for the purposes of future development;
6. No - The department has received information indicating that public controversy exists over the project's potential effects on the quality of the human environment;
7. No - The department determines that the proposed project that is the subject of the state action shows some potential for causing a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, based on ARM 36.2.524, or might possibly affect:

- (i) sensitive environmental or cultural resource areas; or
- (ii) endangered or threatened species and their critical habitats.

**(c) If the proposed project meets the conditions above in determining use of a CATEX, the**

**reviewer will then complete items below as follows:**

*[Once all steps are complete, reviewer shall sign and date at bottom. If revocation becomes necessary, reviewer shall initiate an EA or EIS as appropriate.]*

1. Yes - Project meets the above Categorical Exclusion criteria.
2. Yes - DNRC determination of Categorical Exclusion.
3. Yes - DNRC distributes the Notice of Determination.
4. Yes - Notice of Publication (containing revocation language below) is delivered to recipient.

5. No - Notice of Publication published in local newspaper by recipient and evidence of publication provided to reviewer

**(d) The department may revoke a categorical exclusion if:**

*[Only complete the steps below if revocation of a previously implemented CATEX becomes necessary.]*

1. Choose an item. - The project is not initiated within the time period specified in the facility plan, or a new or modified application is submitted;
2. Choose an item. - The proposed action no longer meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion because of changes in the proposed action;
3. Choose an item. - New evidence demonstrates that serious local or environmental issues exist; or
4. Choose an item. - State, local, tribal, or federal laws may be violated.

Demi Blythe

**DNRC CARD Division STATE PREPARER**

Mark Bostrom – CARDD Administrator

**DNRC CARD Division STATE REVIEWER**

DocuSigned by:

Mark W Bostrom

2/7/2022 | 4:54:30 PM MST

2/3/2022

**COMPLETION DATE**

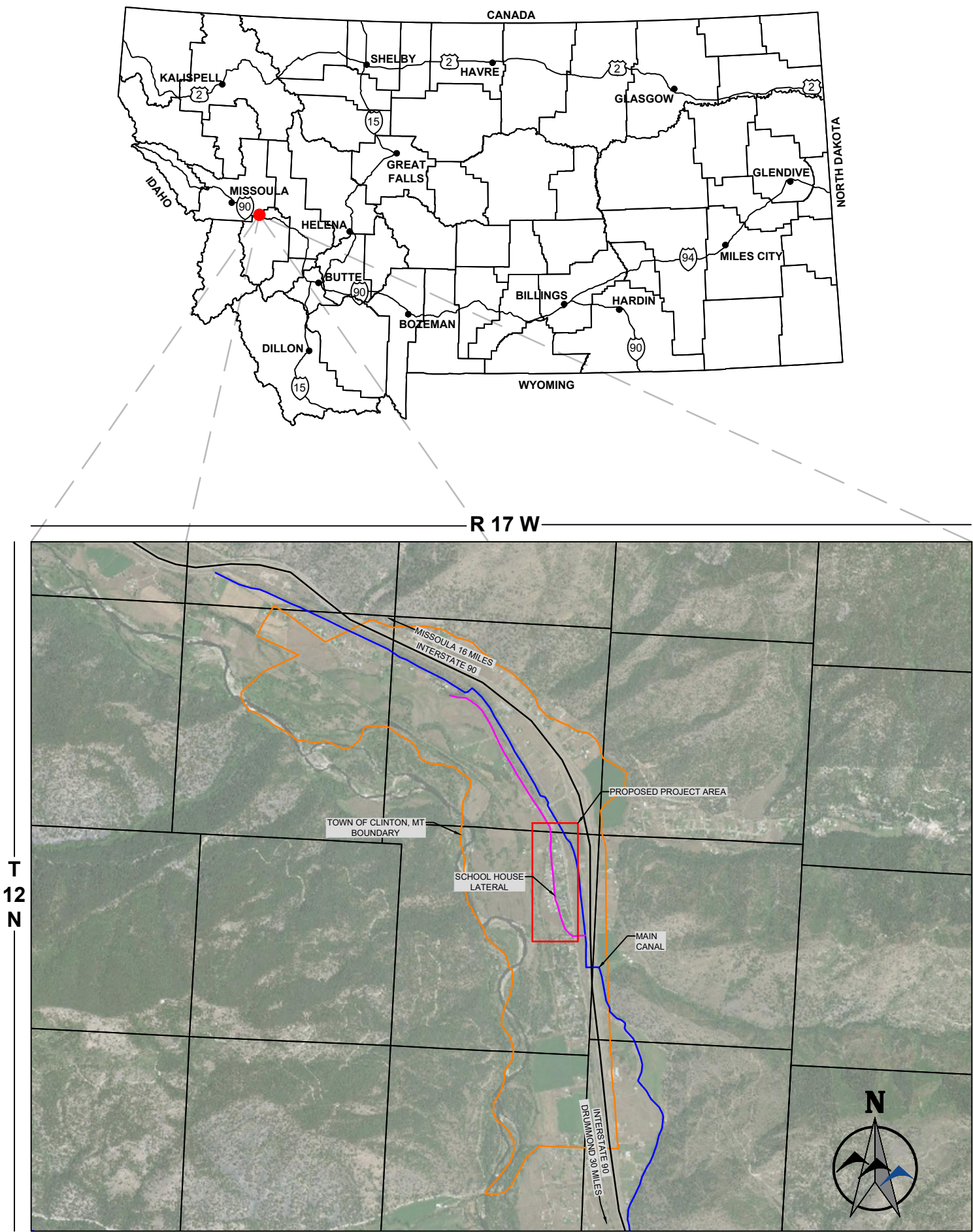


FIGURE 1. GENERAL LOCATION MAP

## Environmental Checklist Instructions

### **Purpose of This Document:**

All applicants must consider the potential environmental impacts of their projects. Consideration of these impacts on the location, design, or construction actions may help avoid expensive mitigation or construction costs. A project will not be eligible for funding if it results in significant adverse impact after mitigation.

DNRC requires compliance with the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) per state law and associated DNRC Administrative Rules (ARM 36.2.523). MEPA requires state agencies to prepare a detailed statement on any project, program, or activity directly undertaken by the agency; a project or activity supported through a contract, grant, subsidy, loan or other form of funding assistance from the agency; and a project or activity involving the issuance of a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement for use or permission by the agency (MCA Title 75, Chapter 1). All project applications will be subject to MEPA review followed by a public scoping process. DNRC will post the drafted MEPA decision for public comment at a minimum of two weeks (dependent on level of environmental impact). The MEPA document will then require a final decision by DNRC once funds are awarded.

Please complete the Environmental Checklist below as the information provided will be subject to a MEPA assessment by DNRC. If an Environmental Assessment has already been completed for the proposed project, please attach it to the application in place of this evaluation.

### **Instructions:**

Complete the Environmental Checklist on the following pages after the instructions below. DNRC retains the ultimate decision-making authority on all MEPA decisions. If DNRC determines this section to be incomplete, additional information will be required before consideration for funding.

Example		
Impact Code	Impact Type	Explanation of Impact to Resource
<b>1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints (example: soil lump, steep slopes, subsidence, seismic activity)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<i>Current Conditions:</i> Click or tap here to enter text. <i>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</i> Click or tap here to enter text.

- Impact Code:** In the first column, identify the impact that the preferred alternative will have on each resource (e.g. 1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints) in the project area. Select from the following impact codes:

- No Impact: No impact to the resource is anticipated or this is not applicable to this project.
- Beneficial: Potentially beneficial impact to the resource.
- Adverse: Potentially adverse impact to the resource.

*Please note that a resource may have more than one impact. Identify all possible impacts to the resource in the space provided. For example, the preferred alternative may have a short-term direct negative impact and a long-term direct and indirect positive impact on the resource. Check all boxes that apply and use the space provided in the final column "Explanation of Impact to Resource" to explain.*

Example		
Impact Code	Impact Type	Explanation of Impact to Resource

1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints (example: soil lump, steep slopes, subsidence, seismic activity)		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<i>Current Conditions:</i> Click or tap here to enter text. <i>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</i> Click or tap here to enter text.

2. **Impact Type:** In the second column, identify the type(s) of impact to the resource from the preferred alternative. (Impacts may be direct, indirect or cumulative).

- **Direct impacts:** Occur at the same time and place as the proposed project.
- **Indirect or secondary impacts:** Occur at a different location or later time than the proposed project.
- **Cumulative impacts:** Collective impacts on the environment when considered in conjunction with other past, present, and future actions related to the proposed project. Cumulative impact analysis includes a review of all state and nonstate activities that have occurred, are occurring, or may occur that have impacted or may impact the same resource as the proposed project.

*Just as above, please note that a resource may have more than one impact. Identify all possible impacts to the resource in the space provided. For example, the preferred alternative may have a short-term direct negative impact and a long-term direct and indirect positive impact on the resource. Check all boxes that apply and use the space provided in the final column "Explanation of Impact to Resource" to explain.*

Example		
Impact Code	Impact Type	Explanation of Impact to Resource
1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints (example: soil lump, steep slopes, subsidence, seismic activity)		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<i>Current Conditions:</i>  <i>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</i>

3. **Explanation of Impact to Resource:** In the final column, use the space provided on the Environmental Checklist to summarize the following information:

**a. Current Conditions**

- Describe the current environmental resources of the affected area including the impact of no action. Your description of the current natural resources will provide a baseline to compare all alternatives and their associated environmental impacts.

**b. Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:**

- Describe the impact of the preferred alternative or ***indicate why there is no impact*** from the project.
- Identify any reasonable cumulative impacts that may result from implementing the preferred alternative. Cumulative impacts are the collective impacts on the environment when considered in conjunction with other past, present, and future actions related to the proposed project.
- If a potentially adverse impact is identified for the preferred alternative, the applicant must provide the following:
  - An analysis of the severity, duration, extent, and frequency of the impact. Please specify and describe the following:
    - Severity: negligible, minor, or major.
    - Duration: short-term or long-term.
    - Extent: local, regional, or statewide.
    - Frequency: non-recurring or recurring.

- An explanation of short- and/or long-term measures to mitigate the impact with a discussion on the effects of those mitigative measures on the proposed project.
- Identify any required permits.

**4. Additional Information:** Underneath the table the following information must be provided:

- a. Cultural Survey Acknowledgement
- b. Sources of Information: Identify all sources consulted for the completion of the Environmental Checklist. Sources may include studies, plans, documents, or the persons, organizations, or agencies contacted for assistance.

Certain sections of this Environmental Checklist may require specialized knowledge. Please contact the necessary agencies if further specialized knowledge is needed and attach comments provided by those agencies to your application. Below are contacts for certain sections that may require additional review by other agencies:

- *Physical Environment, Section #5 - Surface Water Quality* - Montana Department of Environmental Quality, (406) 444 - 3080.
- *Physical Environment, Section #6 - Floodplains and Floodplain Management* - The Department of Natural Resources Water Resources Division, (406) 444 - 0860 or visit: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/water/operations/floodplain-management>.
- *Physical Environment, Section #7 - Wetlands* - U.S. Department of the Army Corps of Engineers, (406) 441 - 1375 or [montana.reg@usace.army.mil](mailto:montana.reg@usace.army.mil).
- *Physical Environment, Section #9 - Vegetation and Wildlife Species and Habitats* - Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Wildlife Office (406) 444 - 2612 or find your Regional Office at <https://fwp.mt.gov/aboutfwp/contact-us>.
- *Physical Environment, Section #10 - Unique, Endangered, Fragile or Limited Environmental Resources* - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for consultation on potential impacts to endangered or limited plants, fish, or other wildlife, (406) 449 - 5225.
- *Human Environment, Section #4 - Historic Properties, Cultural or Archaeological Resources* - Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), (406) 444 - 7718 or [pebrown@mt.gov](mailto:pebrown@mt.gov).

For assistance in preparing the Environmental Checklist, contact DNRC grant manager listed on grant application.

## Environmental Checklist

**Applicant Name:** Clinton Irrigation District

**Project Title:** Schoolhouse Lateral Pipeline Conversion Project

**Environmental Checklist Prepared by:**

**On:** 4/14/2020

Kyna Christensen

Name of Person 1

WWC Engineering

Organization

(406) 443-3962

Phone Number

kchristensen@wwcengineering.com

Email

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Name of Person 2

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Organization

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Phone Number

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Email

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

List additional people above. Include organization, phone number and email for all.

Physical Environment		
Impact Code	Impact Type	Explanation of Impact to Resource
<b>1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints (example: soil lump, steep slopes, subsidence, seismic activity)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>Per the NRCS Web Soil Survey, soils consist of "very gravelly loam, very gravelly fine sandy loam, very gravelly sandy loam". Through the project area, the canal is located on low sloping ground and is surrounded by stable established vegetation.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Soils will not be affected by taking no action.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will eliminate saturated slopes and soils exposed to erosion. Interior slopes will be eliminated with fill material. These changes will stabilize the canal soils.</i></p>
<b>2. Hazardous Facilities (example: power lines, hazardous waste sites, acceptable distance from explosive and flammable hazards including chemical/petrochemical storage tanks, underground fuel storage tanks, and related facilities such as natural gas storage facilities and propane storage tanks)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>No hazardous facilities are located within the vicinity of the project area.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Hazardous facilities will no be affected.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will take place in the existing canal prism. There will not be any impact to hazardous facilities.</i></p>

3. Surrounding Air Quality (example: dust, odors, emissions)		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The project is located within City Limits. The current conditions air quality is consistent with a small-town farming community.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Existing air quality will remain the same.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>Short-term impacts to air quality may occur during construction. Dust pollution may be present during the installation of the pipe. The proposed project will not have long-term impacts on air quality.</i></p> <p><i>Severity: The severity of the air quality impacts will be very minimal. Precautions will be used to minimize any dust and air quality pollutants.</i></p> <p><i>Duration: The proposed project construction is expected to last approximately 1 to 2 months. The air quality will only be impacted during construction.</i></p> <p><i>Extent: The extent of the air quality impacts will affect the immediate construction area only.</i></p> <p><i>Frequency: Air quality will be affected during construction. The effects will be a one-time occurrence during the life the pipeline.</i></p> <p><i>Water applications and other measures will be used during construction to minimize any air quality impacts during installation. Long-term practices such as revegetation and seeding will be utilized to reduce air quality impacts after construction is complete.</i></p>
4. Groundwater Resources and Aquifers (example: quantity, quality, distribution, depth to groundwater, sole source aquifers)		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>Currently, the canal thorough the project area leaks into the ground, thereby providing recharge to the aquifer/groundwater.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Taking No Action will not affect groundwater resources.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The conversion from open ditch to pipeline will reduce water quantity infiltrating into the aquifer.</i></p> <p><i>Severity: The severity of the water quantity will be minimal, relative to the volume of groundwater recharge produced by the adjacent Clark Fork River.</i></p> <p><i>Duration: This impact will be present during the entire irrigation season.</i></p> <p><i>Extent: The extent of this impact will be along the piped section of the Lateral.</i></p> <p><i>Frequency: This impact will be present during each irrigation season.</i></p>

<b>5. Surface Water/Water Quality, Quantity and Distribution (example: streams, lakes, storm runoff, irrigation systems, canals)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The open canal is currently exposed to trash, yard waste, and erosion. These contaminants impact water quality.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>The canal will continue to be exposed to contaminants.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>Installation of a closed pipeline system will reduce seepage and evapotranspiration losses within the CID. The proposed canal conversion will increase water quantity and irrigation efficiency of the Schoolhouse Lateral. The segment of lateral converted to pipeline, along the project length, will reduce turbidity and keep residents from disposing of waste into the open water, increasing water quality.</i></p>
<b>6. Floodplains and Floodplain Management (Identify any floodplains within one mile of the boundary of the project.)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The proposed project is not located in a delineated FEMA floodplain.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Floodplains will not be affected.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The project will not impact a floodplain.</i></p>
<b>7. Wetlands (Identify any wetlands within one mile of the boundary of the project and state potential impacts.)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The National Wetlands inventory was searched for wetlands within a 1-mile buffer of the proposed project area. The site is located adjacent to a riverine zone (the Clark Fork River) and there are wetlands classified as freshwater, forested/shrub wetlands within a 1-mile buffer of the proposed construction area. No wetlands are located within the project area.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Wetlands will not be affected.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>Disturbances within the project area will last 1 to 2 months during active construction but will have no adverse impacts on the adjacent Clark Fork River or any wetlands within the buffer area.</i></p>

<b>8. Agricultural Lands, Production, and Farmland Protection (example: grazing, forestry, cropland, prime or unique agricultural lands) Identify any prime or important farm ground or forest lands within one mile of the boundary of the project.</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>Seepage throughout the project are reduces water volumes accessible to downstream water users. The lack of water impacts agricultural production and quantity of irrigated acres.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Water shortages will continue to occur.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project area will improve irrigation within the CID by adding irrigation to cropland not previously irrigated. These croplands will experience longer growing seasons and higher crop yields. The proposed improvements are expected to increase crop production in areas not currently producing.</i></p>
<b>9. Vegetation and Wildlife Species and Habitats, Including Fish (example: terrestrial, avian and aquatic life and habitats)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The project area is not a significant resource for vegetation, wildlife, or habitats.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>No impacts will occur to vegetation, wildlife, or habitats.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no impact on vegetation, wildlife species or habitats.</i></p>
<b>10. Unique, Endangered, Fragile, or Limited Environmental Resources, Including Endangered Species (example: plants, fish or wildlife)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The project area is located next to an elementary school and goes through a residential trailer park. Given the high human traffic area, it is not expected that endangered species are present.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>No endangered species will be affected.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no impact on unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources, including endangered species.</i></p>
<b>11. Unique Natural Features (example: geologic features)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The existing canal lateral is not considered a unique natural feature.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>No unique natural features will be affected.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The purposed project area will occur entirely in the existing canal banks and therefore, will not impact any unique natural features.</i></p>

12. Access to, and Quality of, Recreational and Wilderness Activities, Public Lands and Waterways, and Public Open Space		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The existing canal lateral has no effect on access to or quality of recreational wilderness activities, public lands, open space, or waterways.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not affect access to or quality of recreational wilderness activities, public lands, open space, or waterways.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project construction and installation of the pipeline system will not affect access to recreational and wilderness activities, public lands and waterways, or public open space.</i></p>
Human Environment		
Impact Code	Impact Type	Resource
<b>1. Visual Quality - Coherence, Diversity, Compatibility of Use and Scale, Aesthetics</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The canal lateral poses minimal impacts to visual quality as it does not obstruct views.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not affect visual quality.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no impact on visual quality.</i></p>
<b>2. Nuisances (example: glare, fumes)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The current canal alignment creates an obstacle for residence, as it bisects their backyard.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>The open construction canal will continue to be a nuisance to residence.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will remove the open channel located along the 20 residential properties located along the project area. This will make it easier for homeowners to traverse their back yards.</i></p>
<b>3. Noise - Suitable Separation Between Housing and Other Noise Sensitive Activities and Major Noise Sources (example: aircraft, highways and railroads.)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>Minimal noise is created by the canal lateral.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>No increase to noise will occur.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>During construction and installation of the pipe there will be some general construction noise.</i></p> <p><i>Severity: Noise will be consistent with a small construction project and will only take place during business hours.</i></p>

		<p><i>Duration: Construction Noise will last between 1 and 2 months.</i></p> <p><i>Extent: Increased noise will be present in the construction area and immediate surroundings. There are some homes within the construction area that could be impacted by increased noise during construction.</i></p> <p><i>Frequency: Noise related to the proposed project will be present during construction only.</i></p> <p><i>Wherever possible, the contractor will minimize noise and steps will be taken to reduce noise impacts to the surrounding area.</i></p>
<b>4. Historic Properties, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources**</b> (Please see end of Environmental Checklist for details if Cultural Survey has not been performed per SHPO Section 106)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>There are no historic properties or archaeological resources that have been identified in the canal banks/ project area.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not affect historic properties or archaeological resources.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>There have been no properties, cultural, or archaeological resources identified in the project area.</i></p>
<b>5. Changes in Demographic (Population) Characteristics (example: quantity, distribution, density)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The Town of Clinton relies on farming to sustain most of the community.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not impact area demographics.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed improvements will not impact the demographic characteristics of the area.</i></p>
<b>6. General Housing Conditions - Quality, Quantity, Affordability</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The Town of Clinton has relatively reasonable and accessible housing.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not effect general housing conditions.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed improvements will not impact the general housing conditions.</i></p>

<b>7. Businesses or Residents (example: loss of, displacement, or relocation)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The Town of Clinton relies on farming to sustain most of the community.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not impact businesses or residents due to displacement or relocation.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will not cause a loss of, displacement, or relocation of businesses or residences.</i></p>
<b>8. Public Health and Safety</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The canal lateral creates a drowning and tripping hazard to the adjacent elementary school and residential neighborhood.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will continue to create an unnecessary hazard to the Town's residence.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will improve public health and safety. The current canal runs through a neighborhood and behind an elementary school. Filling in the canal will reduce potential fall injuries and drownings, which will benefit public health and safety in the CID.</i></p>
<b>9. Local Employment - Quantity or Distribution of Employment, Economic Impact</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The Town of Clinton relies on farming to sustain the local economy.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not increase agricultural yields in the community.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will create local employment opportunities during the short-term during construction and installation. Additionally, the closed pipeline will benefit the local economy by increasing crop yields and production.</i></p>
<b>10. Income Patterns - Economic Impact</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The Town of Clinton relies on farming and agriculture to sustain the majority of the area's economy.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not increase crop yields or income.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will increase crop yields and provide consistent income for farmers and residents in the CID. Current dryland farming practices in the CID create hardship on farmers and reduce crop yields. The closed pipeline will help preserve irrigation in the District, ensuring a productive agricultural economy.</i></p>

<b>11. Local and State Tax Base and Revenues</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The Town of Clinton relies on farming and agriculture to sustain the local economy and tax base.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>No increase in the local tax base will be realized.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will improve irrigation in the CID, increasing crop yields, and adding additional income to local farmers. Increased agricultural production will lead to increased taxable income and property values, which will directly benefit local and state tax revenues.</i></p>
<b>12. Community and Government Services and Facilities (example: educational facilities; health and medical services and facilities; police; emergency medical services; and parks, playgrounds and open space)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The project area is located in City Limits and near populated areas.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not improve the safety of school students and will not increase local tax revenues.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The Clinton Elementary School will see a direct benefit to the safety of students. The location of the canal, next to the school, is a hazard to students commuting to and from school. A closed pipeline will eliminate this hazard.</i></p> <p><i>The school could also see an indirect benefit to funds due to increases in property and agricultural taxes.</i></p>
<b>13. Commercial and Industrial Facilities - Production and Activity, Growth or Decline</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The Town of Clinton relies on farming and agriculture to sustain the majority of the residence.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not increase crop yields or local revenue.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project is anticipated to increase crop yields in the CID. Better crop yields will lead to more revenue in the community and potentially improved revenues to local trucking and agriculture supply businesses.</i></p>

<b>14. Social Structures and Mores (example: standards of social conduct/social conventions)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The Town of Clinton has societal structures and mores similar with typical rural, agricultural-based communities.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>There would be no changes to social structures or mores.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>Improving the irrigation system in the CID could preserve the agricultural lifestyle historically present in the proposed project area.</i></p>
<b>15. Land Use Compatibility (example: growth, land use change, development activity, adjacent land uses and potential conflicts)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The Town of Clinton relies on farming to sustain the local economy.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not affect existing land use compatibility.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have a beneficial effect on the water delivery efficiency within the CID. Dryland farming practices will be eliminated, which will increase crop yields in downstream acres along the Schoolhouse Lateral. Agricultural production will improve, and cropland will be more efficiently irrigated.</i></p>
<b>16. Energy Resources - Consumption and Conservation</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The open construction canal does not provide water pressure to the adjacent water users.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not influence energy resources.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will lower pumping cost for water users along the Schoolhouse Lateral by increasing elevation head in the canal and as a result lowering suction head.</i></p>
<b>17. Solid Waste Management</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The irrigation district has little impact on solid waste volumes.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not affect solid waste.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no effect on solid waste management.</i></p>

<b>18. Wastewater Treatment - Sewage System</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The irrigation district does not rely on wastewater treatment.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not affect wastewater treatment - sewage systems.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no effect on wastewater treatment-sewage systems.</i></p>
<b>19. Storm Water - Surface Drainage</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The canal has minimal influence on stormwater runoff, as stormwater is generally routed by road-side ditches.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not influence stormwater management.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no effect on storm water-surface drainage.</i></p>
<b>20. Community Water Supply</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The irrigation district does not rely on the community water supply.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not effect the community water supply.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no impact on the community water supply.</i></p>
<b>21. Fire Protection - Hazards</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The irrigation district does not have any fire protection systems in place.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not affect fire protection.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no impact on fire protection or hazards.</i></p>
<b>22. Cultural Facilities, Cultural Uniqueness and Diversity</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>There are no known cultural facilities in the project area.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not affect cultural facilities.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no impact on cultural facilities, cultural uniqueness, and diversity.</i></p>

<b>23. Transportation Networks and Traffic Flow Conflicts (example: rail; auto including local traffic; airport runway clear zones - avoidance of incompatible land use in airport runway clear zones)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>There are no roadway or railroad crossings along the project area.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not effect transportation networks.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have no impact on transportation networks or traffic flows.</i></p>
<b>24. Consistency with Local Ordinances, Resolutions, or Plans (example: conformance with local comprehensive plans, zoning, or capital improvement plans.)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The project area does not contain local ordinances, resolutions, or future planning.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will not effect local ordinances, resolutions, or future planning.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will comply with all local ordinances, resolutions and plans in design and construction.</i></p>
<b>25. Private Property Rights (example: a regulatory action or project activity that reduces, minimizes, or eliminates the use of private property.)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adverse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct <input type="checkbox"/> Indirect <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative	<p><u>Current Conditions:</u>  <i>The canal alignment goes through a residential neighborhood.</i></p> <p><u>No Action:</u>  <i>Will continue the use of an open canal and thereby make a portion of their backyard difficult to traverse.</i></p> <p><u>Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:</u>  <i>The proposed project will have a short-term, adverse impact on private property rights during construction.</i></p> <p><i>Severity: The severity of infringement on private property rights from the proposed project will be minor. During construction, access to the canal will be gained through easements through residential areas. Twenty homes are present along the Schoolhouse Lateral canal.</i></p> <p><i>Duration: Access will be needed during construction only. Construction is expected to take between 1 to 2 months. Residents will be contacted and notified prior to construction.</i></p> <p><i>Extent: Construction activity will take place within easements located in private properties.</i></p> <p><i>Frequency: Access to private property will be needed during construction only.</i></p> <p><i>Every attempt will be made to preserve the quality and integrity of homeowners' property during construction. Reseeding and revegetation are included in the installation of the pipeline cost estimate, to restore the property to equal or better condition.</i></p>

### Additional Information

**\*\*If no cultural survey has been performed, or is not expected to be needed, applicant must agree to the following statement:**

☒ I hereby agree that, to my knowledge, there are no cultural or paleontological materials in the proposed project site. If previously unknown cultural or paleontological materials are identified during project related activities, the DNRC grant manager will be notified, and all work will cease until a professional assessment of such resources can be made.

List all sources of information used to complete the Environmental Checklist. Sources may include studies, plans, documents, or the individuals, organizations, or agencies contacted for assistance. For individuals, groups, or agencies, please include a contact person and phone number. List any scoping documents or meetings and/or public meetings during project development.

CID Manager - Pat Byrne

Montana Natural Heritage Program website; <http://mtnhp.org/>

National Wetlands Inventory website; [www.fws.gov/nwi/](http://www.fws.gov/nwi/)

FEMA Map Service Center

US Fish and Wildlife Service, <https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>

### **Below is a list of electronic resources available for data gathering to aid in the development of the Environmental Checklist:**

Abandoned Mines (DEQ): <https://deq.mt.gov/Land/abandonedmines/bluebook>

Agricultural Statistics (USDA):

[http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=DATA\\_STATISTICS](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=DATA_STATISTICS)

#### Air Quality

- Nonattainment Areas: <http://deq.mt.gov/Air/airquality/planning/airnonattainmentstatus>
- Citizens' Guide: <http://deq.mt.gov/Air/airmonitoring/citguide>

Army Corps of Engineers: <http://www.usace.army.mil/Home.aspx>

Bureau of Business and Economic Research, UM: <http://www.bber.umont.edu/>

Cadastral (for property ownership info): <http://svc.mt.gov/msl/mtcadastral>

Census Information, MT Dept. of Commerce: <http://ceic.mt.gov>

Conservation Districts, MT: <http://macdnet.org/>

#### Cultural Records

- Montana Historical Society: <http://mhs.mt.gov/shpo/culturalrecords.asp>

DEQ data search tools: <http://svc.mt.gov/deq/dst/#/home>

- Including Clean Water Act Info Center, Hazardous Waste Handlers, Petroleum Release Fund Claims, Unpermitted Releases, Underground Storage Tanks, Source Water Protection

EPA Enforcement and Compliance History Online <http://echo.epa.gov/>

Farmland Classification: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

Fish (Also See Wildlife)

- Montana Fisheries Information System: <http://fwp.mt.gov/fishing/mFish/>
- Aquatic Invasive Species:  
<http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/species/ais/speciesId/default.html>

Floodplain Maps, FEMA: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>

Geographic Information, Natural Resources Information System: <http://nris.mt.gov/gis>

Geologic Information - <http://www.mbmgt.mtech.edu/information/geologicmap.asp>

Maps of Montana for species observations, land cover, wetland and riparian areas, land management:  
<http://mtnhp.org/Tracker/NHTMap.aspx>; <http://mtnhp.org/mapviewer/?t=6>

Montana Department of Transportation Environmental Manual:  
<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/publications/docs/manuals/env/preface.pdf>

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation Information System:  
<http://bogc.dnrc.mt.gov/webApps/DataMiner/>

Plants

- Plant database, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service: <http://plants.usda.gov/java>
- Plant Species, MT Field Guide: <http://fieldguide.mt.gov/default.aspx>
- Plant Species of Concern: <http://mtnhp.org/SpeciesOfConcern/Default.aspx?AorP=p>
- Threatened and endangered plants, USDA: <http://plants.usda.gov/threat.html>

Soils

- USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service database:  
<https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>
- Montana soil and water conservation districts: <http://swcdmi.org/>

State Historic Preservation Office: <http://mhs.mt.gov/Shpo>

Tourism, UM - Institute of Tourism & Recreation Research: <http://www.itrr.umt.edu>

Tribal Resources:

- Blackfeet Tribal Environmental Permits: <http://www.blackfeetenvironmental.com>
- CSKT Natural Resources Department: <http://nrd.csktribes.org/>
- Montana Office of Indian Affairs: <http://tribalnations.mt.gov/>
- Tribal Historic Preservation Officer List <http://nathpo.org/wp/thpos/find-a-thpo/> Vehicle Traffic Count (MDT): <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/publications/datastats/traffic.shtml>

Water

- Stream Record Extension Facilitator, USGS:  
[http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2008/1362/cd\\_links/WebPart.htm](http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2008/1362/cd_links/WebPart.htm)

- Streamstats basin characteristics, USGS: <http://water.usgs.gov/osw/streamstats/>
- Water Resources Division, DNRC: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/water>
- Water Rights Bureau, DNRC: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/water/water-rights>
- Water Right Query System, DNRC: <http://nrismt.gov/dnrc/waterrights/default.aspx> Wetlands database, USFWS: <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/mapper.html>

Wild and Scenic Rivers: <http://www.rivers.gov/montana.php>

#### Wildlife

- Animal Species, MT Field Guide: <http://fieldguide.mt.gov/default.aspx>
- Animal Species of Concern: <http://mtnhp.org/SpeciesOfConcern/Default.aspx?AorP=a>
- Aquatic Invasive Species:  
<http://fwpmont.gov/fishAndWildlife/species/ais/speciesId/default.html>
- Critical Habitat Mapper, USFWS: <http://ecos.fws.gov/crithab/>
- Crucial Areas Planning System/Habitat Assessment Tool:  
<http://fwpmont.gov/fishAndWildlife/conservationInAction/crucialAreas.html>
- FWP Contact Map: <http://fwpmont.gov/gis/maps/contactUs/> (includes biologist responsibility areas)
- Maps and GIS Data, FWP: <http://fwpmont.gov/doingBusiness/reference/maps/>
- Sage grouse management, FWP:  
<http://fwpmont.gov/fishAndWildlife/management/sageGrouse/>
- Sage grouse habitat conservation program, DNRC: <http://sagegrouse.mt.gov/>
- Sage grouse habitat map: <https://sagegrouse.mt.gov/ProgramMap>